

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-48 (canceled)

Claim 49 (new): A container or a preform for a container, wherein said container or preform comprises a composition which comprises a polymeric material and titanium nitride.

Claim 50 (new): A container or preform according to claim 49, said composition including at least 0.01ppm and less than 1000ppm of titanium nitride based on the weight of said polymeric material.

Claim 51 (new): A container or preform according to claim 49, wherein the average particle size of the inorganic material is 100 nm or less.

Claim 52 (new): A container or preform according to claim 49, wherein at least 90% of said titanium nitride comprises particles having a maximum dimension which is less than 10 microns.

Claim 53 (new): A container or preform according to claim 49, wherein at least 95% of said titanium nitride comprises particles having a maximum dimension which is less than 10 microns.

Claim 54 (new): A container or preform according to claim 49, wherein at least 95% of said titanium nitride comprises particles having a maximum dimension which is less than 500 nm.

Claim 55 (new): A container or preform according to claim 49, wherein the polymeric material is selected from one or more of the following polymers: polyesters, polycarbonates, polyamides, polyolefins, polystyrenes, vinyl polymers, acrylic polymers and copolymers and blends thereof.

Claim 56 (new): A container or preform according to claim 49, wherein the polymer is poly(ethylene terephthalate) or a copolymer thereof; or polypropylene or oriented polypropylene.

Claim 57 (new): A container or preform according to claim 49, wherein said composition includes at least 2ppm of titanium nitride and less than 500ppm of titanium nitride based on the weight of said polymeric material.

Claim 58 (new): A container or preform according to claim 49, wherein the ratio of the weight of polymeric material to the weight of titanium nitride is in the range 2×10^3 to 2.5×10^5 .

Claim 59 (new): A container or preform according to claim 49, which is a bottle.

Claim 60 (new): A bottle comprising a composition which comprises:

- (a) poly (ethylene terephthalate) or a copolymer thereof; and
- (b) titanium nitride;

wherein said composition includes at least 2ppm and less than 500ppm of titanium nitride and the ratio of the weight of poly (ethylene terephthalate) or copolymer thereof to the weight of titanium nitride is in the range 2×10^3 to 2.5×10^5 .

Claim 61 (new): A method of making a container, the method comprising:

- (a) selecting a preform for a container wherein said preform has improved reheat characteristics and comprises a composition which comprises a polymeric material and titanium nitride; and
- (b) heating the selected preform and forming it into a container.

Claim 62 (new): A method according to claim 61, wherein said polymeric material is poly(ethylene terephthalate) or a copolymer thereof and said composition includes at least 2ppm and less than 500ppm of titanium nitride, wherein the ratio of the weight of poly (ethylene terephthalate) or copolymer thereof to the weight of titanium nitride is in the range 2×10^3 to 2.5×10^5 .